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HONORED BY COMPANY — Walter H. Dolge of Newburgh (center) receives the American Felt Company's highest honor award, the "St. Feutre" plaque from company Treasurer John H. Burness (left) of Greenwich, Conn. Company Vice-President Kenneth R. Peattie (right) was among those present to see the presentation. The award recognized Mr. Dolge's 25 years of service and outstanding achievements in feltmaking.

Walter H. Dolge Honored By American Felt Company

GREENWICH, Conn. — In recognition of his major contributions to the art of felt-making during his 25 years of service with American Felt Co., Walter H. Dolge of Newburgh, recently appointed manufacturing consultant to the company, was the recipient of the "St. Feutre Award", the company's highest honor award for outstanding achievement. Presentation of the engraved plaque was made by John H. Burnes, treasurer, at an annual dinner held at the Field Club, Greenwich, Conn. Sixty-five employees and officials attended.

President William H. Lehmberg said that "Walter Dolge exemplified the finest traditions of quality felt-making established 90 years ago by his illustrious uncle, Alfred H. Dolge, who pioneered the manufacture of piano hammer felt in the United States. This has been internationally acclaimed for its fine quality and its high standards substantially contributed to the establishment and maintenance of the American Felt Company's position of leadership in the industry."

"I know of no one more highly qualified to receive our St. Feutre Award, in honoring his outstanding contributions to the felt industry and to the prestige of our company than Walter Dolge," Mr. Lehmberg said. "We are proud to know that his experience and knowledge will be available to all manufacturing points in his new capacity as manufacturing consultant."

Marking his 25th year with American Felt Company, Mr. Dolge's felt-making experience covers a total span of over 50 years, starting with summer vacation employment in Beacon, at the early age of 11. He first learned the sorting of wool when he joined his father, Hugo Dolge, to work for Alfred Dolge, who founded the town of Dolgeville, N.Y. In later years, when Hugo Dolge ran the felt mill at Franklin, Mass., then owned by Hayward & Clark Co., his son progressed to the picking and carding departments.

Positions of increased responsibility and scope were successively held by Mr. Dolge and his son. Dolge's career was interrupted to serve in World War I. He later

continued his employment at the Densten Felt and Hair Co. at Peabody, Mass., where he was instrumental in developing the felted hair rug cushion with Densten, and became superintendent. Prior to joining American Felt Company's Newburgh plant, Mr. Dolge was superintendent of the Danbury Mills which made slipper felts, millineries and linings.

As manufacturing consultant of American Felt Company, Walter H. Dolge will serve the company's four plants located at Newburgh; Westerly, R.I.; Franklin, Mass. and Glenville, Conn. in an advisory capacity.

He and his wife, the former Blanche Lafayette, are long-time residents of Newburgh. Their son, Walter Jr., is a member of the U.S. Central Intelligence Agency, Washington, D.C.